(vii) A delegation from the Engineering Export Promotion Council is also likely to visit Gulf region during this month.

The areas identified for participation in the reconstruction by Indian companies include oil wells and refineries, civil construction, power lines and allied areas and export of commodity items.

Seizure of Contraband Items

4138. SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :
SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of narcotic drugs, gold, silver and other contraband items seized by various agencies during the last three financial years and between April to June, 1991, year-wise and item-wise;

(b) the number of persons arrested/prosecuted during April to June, 1991;

(c) whether the Union Government process to make more strict provisions of punishment for drug traffickers and smugglers in the existing law; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The quantity and value of gold and silver and value of other contraband goods seized by Customs authorities throughout the country during the financial years 1988-89, 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 (upto June, 1991). are given in the attached statement-I. The quantity of various narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances seized by drug law enforcement agencies in the country during the same period are given in the attached statement-II.

(b) The number of persons arrested/prosecuted by the Customs authorities and by the various drug law enforcement agencies in the country during the period from April to June, 1991 are given separately in the table below :

	Number arrested	Number prosecuted
Customs authorities	702	272
Drug Law Enforcement Agencies	1994	1765

(c) and (d) The existing Law of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 as amended in May, 1989 which even provides for capital punishment for second offences in certain cases and forfeiture of assets acquired from Drug profits are considered strict enough for the present.

Similarly, the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962 which apart from confiscation of contraband goods and penalty in departmental adjudication provides for imprisonment upto a maximum period of 7 years are also considered to be adequate for the present.

Persons found involved in Drug Trafficking Smuggling and/or Foreign Exchange manipulation can also be

detained under the provisions of Preventive Detention Laws namely Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988 and/or Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974.

STATEMENT I

Year	Gold		Silver		Value of
	Quantity (in kgs.)	Value (Rs. in crores)	Quantity (in kgs.)	Value (Rs. in crores)	other contraband seized (Rs. in crores)
1988-89	8086	264.43	26010	16.64	198.80
1989-90	6268	199.50	148461	102.56	243.89
1990-91	5399	183.97	206666	136.92	388.32
*1991-92 (upto June)	1744	61.40	66644	45.08	109.15

*Figures are provisional.

STATEMENT II

(Quantity in Kgs.)

*Drug	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	@1991-92 (upto June)
Opium	2271	4887	1989	1294
Morphine	21	92	8	4
Heroin	2784	2402	1739	178
Ganja	42104	50482	38052	33461
Hashish	7921	7165	6899	1031
Cocaine	9	3	2	—
Methaqualone	1395	858	2282	259
Amphetamine	9	1	—	—
Phenobarbital	—	720	—	—

@Figures are provisional.

*No precise value of Narcotic Drugs can be estimated since it depends on its purity, place of origin etc.